

# NOBODY GUILTY OF NEGLIGENCE

## SAYS REPORT

Censure Officers of  
City Home.

## ADMIT MURDER, BUT CAN'T PLACE BLAME

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### Secrecy Due to Unwise Idea That Crime Could Be Detected.

Make Thorough In-  
quiry Into Death  
of Child.

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**R**ESOLVED by the Committee on  
Relief of the Poor:

1. That as a result of the investigation of the management of the City Hospital

1. That the incidents connected with the death of the Infant Vaughan, it finds that changes in the rules relating to the admission of patients and to reports to the Board therefor imperative need.
2. That a subcommittee of three be appointed to report such changes.
3. That a called meeting of the full committee be held at an early date to consider additional nurses, especially for night duty.
4. That the death of the infant Vaughan was due to poison administered by a nurse, a u.s. nurse.
5. That the poison first administered was given in an interval of some twenty minutes between the time it was given by the nurse and the time she was called to the child.
6. That every effort was made to use every remedy used by the nurse in the interim to relieve the child, as was the duty of the nurse.
7. That the child was removed another ward the same day and given

8. That notwithstanding this removal, and despite the fact that the head nurse and the internes were constantly with the child as their duties allowed, poison was again administered and with fatal results.

9. The committee find it impossible to say that any officer or employee

the home was guilty of negligence, and are of opinion that all was done that could be done to prevent the recurrence of this heinous attempt so far as the number of employees of the institution permitted.

10. The committee finds that so far as there was any secrecy connected with this unhappy affair it was due to an unwise idea that thereby the detection of the criminal would be made easier. But the committee believes that all felonious attempts or assaults should be

11. That the evidence shows that the only information possessed by Mr. Davis and Dr. Treviñan regarding the poisoning had been obtained from the person named as the interneta who had attended the child, and that he had followed the custom prevailing in the home of reporting all suspicious death to the coroner, and that as they were unable to throw any additional light on the subject other than could be obtained from the person who reported the matter to them, they felt that it was unnecessary for them to postpone their trips which had been arranged for several weeks previous to this date.

poisoning of "Baby" Vaughan, the Committee on Relief of the Poor negatively exonerated Superintendent George B. Davis and other officials in authority at the home, and indirectly praised the work of internes and nurse in relation to the murder of the unknown and nameless infant.

The verdict, returned after 2 o'clock this morning, recommended changes that were necessary, but laid the blame for the baby's death on the mother, and placed the responsibility for alleged negligence on any one's shoulders. The committee's report was negative rather than positive.

The investigation was conducted on the lines of a coroner's jury rather than a grand jury, and it was expected to be followed by a committee of the Council, and nothing new was brought out by the inquiry. As to the conditions prevailing at the City Home, while made it possible for two attempts were made to get people's attention, except in a perfunctory sort of way, or because it was not realized that such a thing was possible, little, anything, was learned that was new.

already known. Assistant City Attorney George Wayne Anderson conducted the investigation.

**Large Crowd Present.**

Mr. Julius Hobson was in the chair and he invited not only members of the committee to question the witnesses but also all of our private citizens who might want to question them. The little reception room was filled with a large and curious crowd among them being two sons of Superintendent Davis.

In that part of its final report recommending certain changes to make out of the trial a committee of Dr. F. M. Reade and Messrs. Satterfield and Buford, was appointed make the changes.

The report recognized the fact that

too few nurses are employed at the home; that undivided authority should be given to the superintendent, a that other minor, but necessary, changes should be made. Most of its attention was paid to an attempt to discover the motives of the murderer, but this was not the main line of inquiry, but rather, rather than to deep inquiry as to the government of the institution.

Apparently constituting itself more as a coroner's jury than as a committee called to investigate the management or mismanagement of the Children's Home, the Committee on Keller of the House, concluded its main line of questioning to an effort to discover the murderers of "Baby" Vaughan and the probable nativity that led to the death of the child.

It was chiefly from the mouth of Superintendent Davis that evidence as to the rules governing the conduct of the

**Local rains.**

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